www.themorningnewsaruba.com · themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com Wednesday, December 4, 2013

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Big group of families honored at the Divi Phoenix













Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a big group of families whom are loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba, at the Divi Phoenix Beach Resort, as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to

guests who visit Aruba for 10 to 19 and 20 or more consecutive years.

The honorees were Mrs.
Shirley Johnson from Brooklyn NY, the Rapfogel family
consisting of Mr. Alan and
Mrs. Jamie Rapfogel, children Steven and Nicole and
Jessica Rapfogel and
grandma Mrs. Norma
Ehrlich, the Chenette family
Mr. Mike and Mrs. Lisa Ch-

and Hayden Chenette from NY, Mr. James and Mrs. Stephany Cusimano from Rochester NY, the Thomas family Mr. Ron and Mrs. Tracey and children Brook and Morgan Thomas from Wilmington NC and Mr. David Day from North Brookfield mass. All the honorees are loyal members of the Divi Phoenix and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, Casinos and Aruba feels like a second home, the people are like a family to them and the Divi Phoenix is their home away from home. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Avril and Mr. Pedro Vargas representing the Divi Phoenix

Photos depict the honorees.

US, Colombia to triple cooperation in region

WASHINGTON (AFP) President Juan Manuel Santos on Tuesday said Colombia and the United States
would triple security cooperation in a group of third countries in Latin America and the
Caribbean

Santos, after meeting President Barack Obama at the White House, also proposed an economic cooperation pact in Latin America based on the Alliance for Progress unveiled by president John Kennedy in Colombia 50 years ago.

Obama, meanwhile, praised Colombia's peace efforts under Santos, calling his talks with FARC guerrillas "brave" and "bold."

Washington and the United States currently cooperate in security operations targeting drug trafficking and transnational crime in four Central American countries.

"We will be tripling the

WASHINGTON (AFP) - joint operations we're going President Juan Manuel San- to be carrying," Santos told tos on Tuesday said Colom- reporters in the Oval Office.

> "For example, in one case we have 17,000 officers who have been trained in Colombia, officers who come from these countries."

> A White House fact sheet said that the initiative would now encompass six countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and would involve 152 capacity-building activities.

> Both leaders told reporters that the relationship between Colombia and the United States had now stretched beyond its traditional concentration on drug trafficking and security.

> "The influence that President Santos personally as well as Colombia as a nation has is only growing, and we think that's a positive because we consider Colombia a great friend and a great success."

Obama comes out fighting on health care

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US
President Barack Obama on
Tuesday tried to turn the
focus away from the glitchriven debut of his landmark
health care law to its benefits,
hoping to reverse a rough political run.

"If I have got to fight another three years to make sure this law works, then that is what I will do," Obama said, launching a new White House effort to rebrand the law, which has been overshadowed by a calamitous website rollout.

Obama's personal and political approval ratings have taken a beating since the website was first put up on October 1 and Republicans, who want to repeal the law, are gleefully exploiting a golden political opening.

The president said at a speech in the White House complex which seemed partly an attempt to buck up supporters that coverage of the poor start to the law had overshadowed its benefits.

He said he set off to pass health care reform in the first place because more than 41 million Americans had no health insurance and many others fell prey to restrictions on coverage and treatment imposed by the insurance industry.

"We felt we were better than that and that's why we took this on," he said.

"That's what's gotten lost a little bit over the last couple of months.

"The bottom line is, this law is working and will work into the future."





Police Chief Richardson: "Legal status of police to be finalized by end of 2013"



ORANJESTAD -- In 2010 when Chief of Police, Adolfo "Dolfi" Richardson became Chief of Police, he encountered a group of police rather demotivated. Today that motivation is growing by his compliance with one of his primary tasks, which is the introduction of the reorganization of the Police Force.

According to Richardson, there were many challenges for the implemenation of the reorganization within two to three years. He indicated that the process is now almost complete and that he can guarantee that by the end of the year all the members of the Police Force will have their legal status completed.

Over the years, somehow the pay scale system was not justly delineated. However, with the new organization this has been corrected.

The process, reportedly, was not easy, but rather very complicated and required a great deal of time to accomplish.

According to Richardson, we have reached the moment where all the tasks are prepared and we are ready to improve our police product as we should.

The Police Chief congratulated his Police Force with the new plan and expressed gratitude to all who had the patience to wait and continue working with animo for the people of Aruba. The motivation, he says, is back in the Force The Police Force he says, is "up and tops" and motivated to continue providing the service and security that our community expects to receive from them. The reorganization means more professionalism from our local police force.

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Aruba airport security experts visit Miami International Airport



ORANJESTAD-- Security experts of the Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) together with other experts received an invitation from the international Office of the US Transportation Security Administration Agency, to visit the Miami International Airport. The TSA resorts under the Department f Homeland Security of the United States

During the visit the Aruba representatives received ample explanation of the operation of the International Airport of Miami. The Miami Airport is the largest airport in the area of International Cargo and the second largest in the amount of international passenger movement. This airport processes an average of 50,000 passengers per day.

They also met with those in charge of the Control Department of the Miami-Dade County and a visit to the area for processing luggage. They then had a tour around the parameter of the airport and a visit to the international cargo facility.

This visit consolidated the

relationship Aruba has with

TSA is an important partner in Aruba's airport security. The Aruba Airport is the only airport in the region which offers Pre-Clearance to the USA. Airlines making use

Italiestraat # 50 (Orange Plaza)

of the facility can offer passengers better transfer services when they arrive in the USA as their flights are consdered domestic flights once Pre-cleared in Aruba. This means that our Airport must continue maintaining a high level and strict security. Focus must also be on constant training of our personnel to be kept up to date at all times.

Photo shows Federal Security Director of the Miami International Airport, M. Hatfield and representatives of TSA, B. Williams and J. Abarante. Aruba was represented by A. Kirchner of the Civil Aviation Department and D. Jacobs of Security Aviation Inspection.

The AAA was represented by H. Webb of the Unidad di Desaroyo di Aeropuerto and A. Flemming, Head of the AAA security unit.

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Banjolux Proud of Contribution to the new City Hall Building of Aruba!



ORANJESTAD -- Clearly visible on the faces of Banjolux owners Harold Strijland and Michiel Oversteegen you can see it. They are very proud for their contribution to Aruba's latest prestige project, the construction of the brand new City Hall building Cocolishi', on which they have worked for no less than two years. From the very first meeting through to the completion last month.

Banjolux was preferred by the team responsible for the design of the new City Hall building, and thus pulled in a considerable task taking care of all tile floors and restrooms for the four storey City Hall building. In other words 3,000 m2 of tile floors in various designs and materials, plus another 18 bathrooms with high quality sanitary ware for all ministers, the Prime Minister, the minister council chamber and all public accessible restrooms.

"We are indeed very proud of this task and not without reason", says Harold. "Fortunately, the choice was made for high quality products of all the different materials and that is reflected in the final result. The appearance of the new City Hall building is something Aruba



ers are very happy with the choice of a local supplier and overall cooperation. "In the



past you could clearly see the major project to incline international suppliers and buy

their products there. We are pleased to see that in this case the choice went to Banjolux, a local supplier", says Michiel.

"The cooperation with all interested local parties, including contractors ALBO, went very well".

Banjolux has been a supplier for 16 years - since their opening in 1997 - of high quality products in the field of plumbing and tiled flooring. Among the clientele of Banjolux are most of the hotels in Aruba, various contractors and private households



can be very proud off".

Also, both Banjolux own-

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Crab Rangoon

Entrée

Classic Pepper Steak Mandarin Orange Chicken BBQ Roast Pork Vegetable Fried Rice/ White Rice

> Dessert Ice Cream with cookie

Price per person: \$24.00

Plus 15% service charge & 1.5% Tax

(For 30 or more persons, Buffet Style Served)

сноісе: В

Welcome Fruit Punch
Appetizer
Vegetable Spring Roll
Crab Rangoon

Entrée

Salted Thailand Crispy Shrimp Mandarin Orange Chicken BBQ Roast Pork Vegetable Fried Rice/ White Rice

> Dessert Ice Cream with cookie

Price per person: \$27.00

Plus 15% service charge & 1.5% Tax

(For 30 or more persons Buffet Style Served)

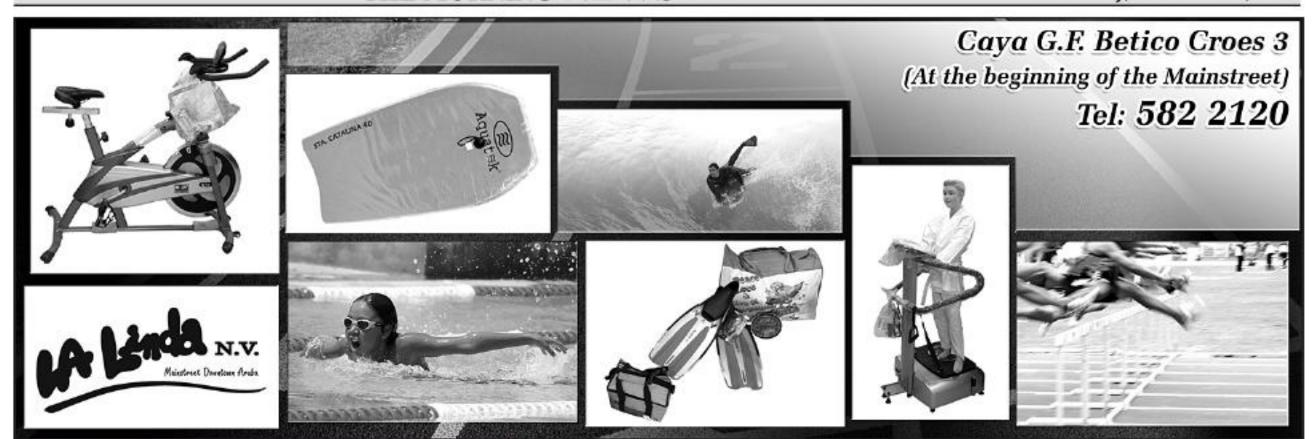


Dessert Ice Cream with cookie

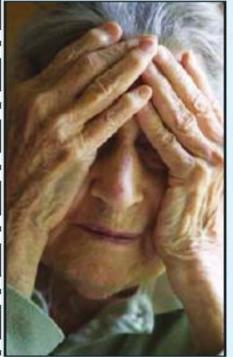
Price per person: \$30.00

Plus 15% service charge & 1.5% Tax

(For 30 or more persons, Buffet Style Served,



It is the Memory that matters



By: Roland W. Peterson

As Grandma sat in her favorite Rocking chair, she was looking at the faded photo's in the old album.

Grandma had a
worried-some
expression on her
face.
You could see that she
was trying to
remember.

Her little granddaughter was making an effort to climb up onto her lap, as she asked: "Grandma which photo do you love the best"

Grandma's eyes filled with tears as she helped the little one onto her comfort zone.

She answered: "They are all beautiful my dear, but it is the memory that matters. You hope that the memory is here to stay.

But it seems that lately even the memory is fading away."



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Dinner

Monday - Sunday 6:00 - 11:00 p.m

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Meet the legend that started the tradition: Sinterklaas!



Tomorrow, island visitors will be confronted with the living legend and true life figure that inspired Santa Claus: Sinterklaas! Local children have been leaving out a shoe every evening for the past few weeks since his arrival at Oranjestad Harbor, in hopes of finding a sweet treat or small toy as a reward for exemplary behavior. It is common practice to gather a bit of grass and leave some water for his overworked steed, who takes Sinterklaas around the island on his rounds.

Commonly called St. Nicolas and in some regions, De Goedheiligman or The Good Holy Man, the patron saint of children, sailors, philatelists, and the city of Amsterdam, he arrives on Aruba every year after traveling by sea from Spain.

Though there is some scholarly debate regarding his possible pre-Christian origins, it is acknowledged that the figure of Sinterklaas is based on the Greek Bishop of Myra, which is now part of Turkey Tomorrow is his feast

day, and his birthday follows the day after, December 6. Purportedly an orphan taken in by Jesuits, his legend recounts him dedicating much of his time to rescuing other homeless children off the streets.

In 1087, the relics of the Bishop of Myra were furtively transported to Bari, in southeastern Italy; for this reason, he is also known as Niko-

laos of Bari. Bari later formed part of the Spanish Kingdom of Naples, because it was previously conquered in 1442 by Alfonso V of Aragon. The city thus became part of the Kingdom of Aragon and later of Spain, until the 18th century. Because the remains of St. Nicholas were in Bari (then a Spanish city), it is tradition that St. Nicholas comes from Spain His helpers are depicted as Moorish figures of the Spanish court, called

Zwarte Pieten.

This is why Sinterklaas travels all the way from Spain to Aruba to bring toys and treats to good little boys and girls, who are listed in the big book he always carries. Naughty children may receive a spanking from the Zwarte Pieten, if they are unrepentant. Usually they distribute handfuls of traditional sweets, such as kruidnoten, which are bite-sized ginger snaps, and tai-tai, anise flavored cakes often in the shape of Sinterklaas or Zwarte Piet.

Today, the venerable old man and his merry pranksters will be sighted at all corners of Aruba. Many homes will welcome a Zwarte Piet who will entertain with rollicking poetry. Excited children will await to see what wonderful gifts emerge from their big bags. Expect Sinterklaas to set up shop in town and at various toy stores, where children will be invited to come and receive a special gift.

Once his feast day is over, Sinterklaas and his Zwarte Pieten will quietly retire to Spain, only to return again to Aruba to thrill island children with his presence, a beloved holiday season tradition inherited from their Dutch colonial days.

By Rosalie Klein





Human trafficking a worry in post-typhoon Philippines: US

WASHINGTON (AFP) Thousands of women and
children in the Philippines
risk falling prey to human
traffickers in the aftermath of
last month's catastrophic typhoon, lawmakers and the
chief US aid agency warned
Tuesday.

A US congressman returning from a visit to the stormravaged island nation said
that while Filipino authorities
and US forces were helping
vast numbers of storm victims, more attention was
needed to thwart criminal opportunists taking advantage
of the chaos after Super-ty-

phoon Haiyan roared ashore.

"The most vulnerable -women, children, the elderly,
and those with special needs
-- always fare worst during
disasters," Republican congressman Chris Smith, who
led the three-member delegation to the disaster zone last
week, told a House Foreign
Affairs subcommittee.

At particular risk of sex trafficking are vulnerable people "who over a longer period of time may have lost some hope," said Smith

Such persons in the Philippines, many among the thousands transported out of the disaster zone to cities like the capital Manila, could fall victim to offers of work in Saudi Arabia or Korea, Smith said, only to find themselves with "an engraved invitation to a hell on Earth."

Washington considers the Philippines as not in full compliance with minimum standards for eliminating trafficking. The State Department's 2013 trafficking report describes it as a source country for sex-trafficking and forced labor, and that "child sex tourism remained a serious problem" there.

The US Agency for Inter-

national Development, which for years has worked with the government of the Philippines to reduce human trafficking, also sounded the alarm at the hearing.

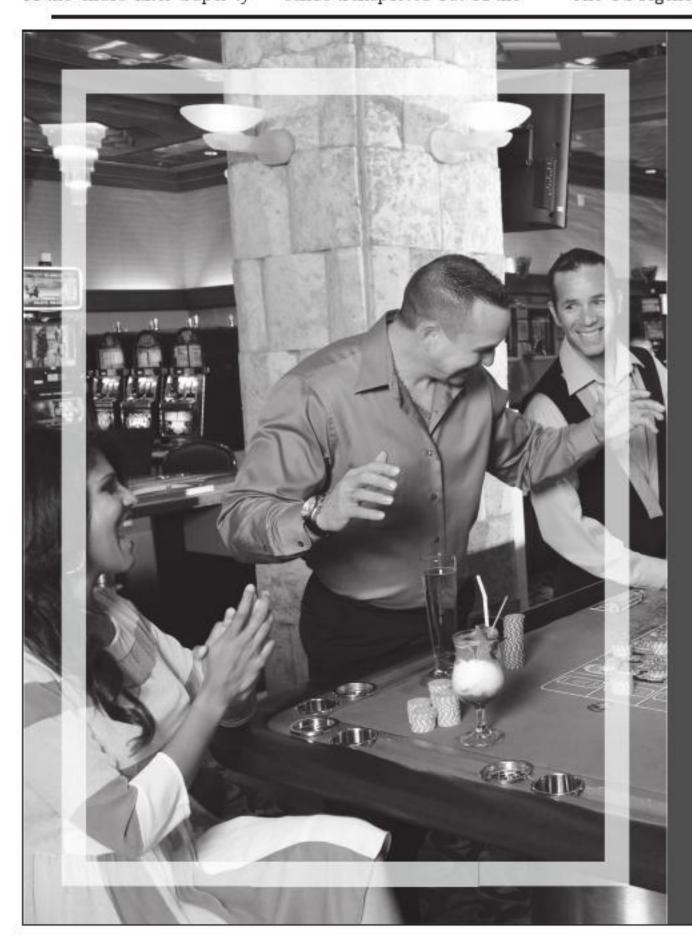
"We are watching this very closely," Nancy Lindborg, the USAID's assistant administrator for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, testified.

"To protect the children of the central Philippines during this time of heightened vulnerability, the government of the Philippines and the international community will need to make every effort... to ensure and strengthen local and national protective serv-

That includes creation of safe spaces for women and children, and programs that help identify, trace and reunify unaccompanied children, she said.

Washington has committed nearly \$60 million worth of typhoon-related aid to the Philippines, Lindborg said.

More than 7,400 people died or remain missing in the aftermath of Haiyan, one of the most powerful typhoons on record.



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Britain urges US court to end contract ban on BP

NEW YORK (AFP) - Britain has formally backed BP's effort to overturn a US ban on the oil giant from government contracts due to the disastrous 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill.

In a filing Monday to a US court in Texas, the British government suggested the law may not have been ap-

plied fairly to BP

It also warned that the US
Environmental Protection
Agency (EPA) ban on the
company creates "harmful
regulatory uncertainty" that
might discourage other companies from cooperating with
regulators.

"Regulators should apply the law fairly and predictably lest their actions erode global public trust in the institutions and individuals involved. In this case, Her Majesty's Government is concerned that these reasonable standards have not been met," it said in the filing.

In addition, the government said, the EPA ban "risks creating a powerful disincentive to cooperation in times of crisis."

"Corporations may think twice before agreeing to accept responsibility, to perform remedial work, or to negotiate a plea agreement if such efforts are not taken into account when the time comes to mete out other sanctions."

BP has paid billions of dollars in fines and compensation over the 2010 Deepwater Horizon disaster, which left 11 people dead and sent millions of barrels of oil churning into the Gulf of Mexico.

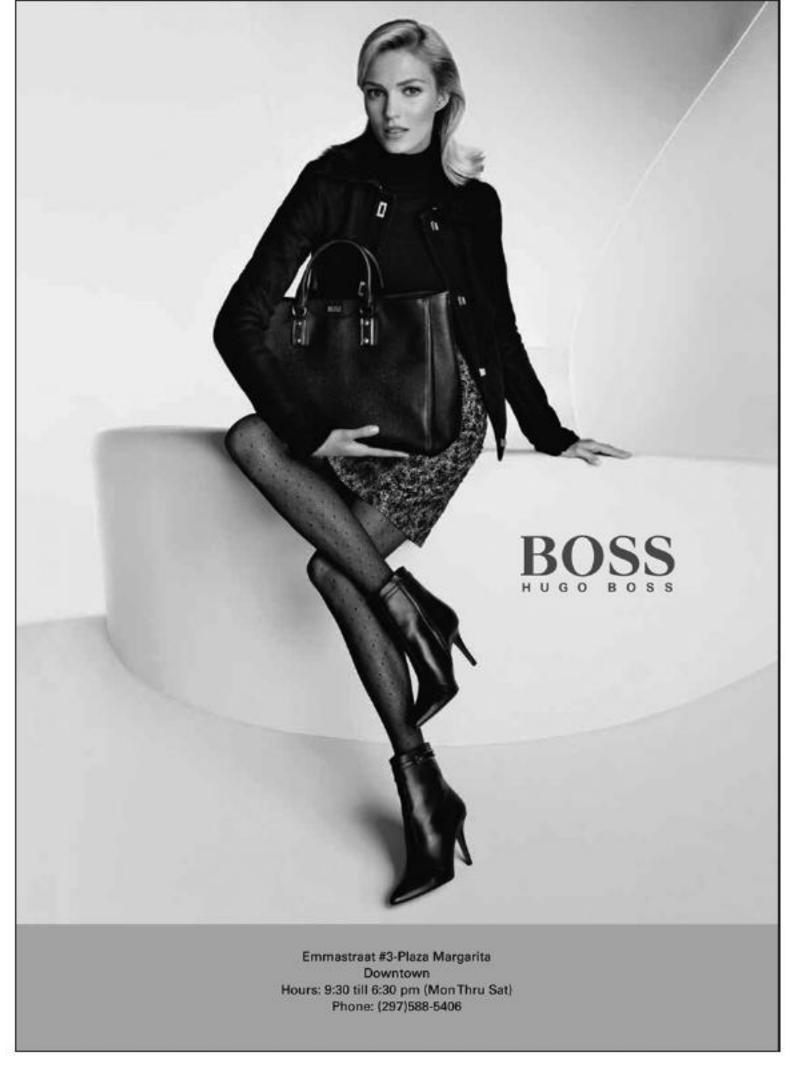
In November 2012 the company agreed with the Department of Justice to a then-record \$4.5 billion fine and pleaded guilty to 14 counts to settle criminal charges in the case.

It has also spent more than \$14 billion on the response and cleanup and paid another \$10 billion to businesses, individuals and local governments that did not join the class-action lawsuit.

The EPA, in November 2012, blocked BP from federal contracts, citing its "lack of business integrity" in the Gulf disaster and its aftermath.

"Suspensions are a standard practice when a responsibility question is raised by action in a criminal case," EPA said.

In August 2013, BP sought to overturn the ban, arguing the company had already been punished for the spill and that the EPA's action was "punitive, arbitrary, capricious, and an abuse of EPA's discretion."





Venezuela probes blackout that halted Maduro broadcast

CARACAS (AFP) - A blackout that plunged much of Venezuela into darkness as President Nicolas Maduro spoke on TV was caused by a ruptured conductor in a transmission line, the government said Tuesday.

"The system is 30 years old and a failure of this kind has never occurred," Electricity Minister Jesse Chacon, as the government continued to suggest that sabotage was behind the power cut.

Maduro blamed the three hour outage Monday night on what he said were "conspiracies" ahead of the country's December 8 municipal elections.

"There are attacks on the electricity service to disconnect it for days," he said. "They aren't going to make us suspend the elections."

Electrical engineer Jose Manuel Aller told AFP that the government's explanation was dubious.

"Just before the blackout

there was an oscillation in the network, which generally occurs when transmission limits are exceeded, causing a failure that activates the security systems," he said.

He said transmission lines were long and vulnerable to a "weather event, rain, light-

ning or a storm."

He also noted that the government had sent troops to protect the electrical system after a similar outage in the

"It would be very difficult for someone to gain access to the system," he said.

Maduro, a former union leader and bus driver, is struggling to establish the stature and following enjoyed by his political mentor Chavez, who died of cancer in March.

The December 8 municipal elections are considered a test of Maduro's popularity and performance since taking power.



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US media points to human error in NYC train crash

NEW YORK (AFP) - US human error as the cause of a deadly commuter train crash in New York, reporting that the driver either fell asleep or "zoned out."

The train was traveling at nearly three times the recommended speed limit when it derailed early Sunday, killing four people and injuring another 67 passengers, federal investigators say.

The train clocked 82 miles (131 kilometers) per hour as it entered a curve in the Bronx where the limit was 30 miles (48 kilometers) per hour.

Investigators are questioning the driver, William Rockefeller, 46, in a process expected to continue for several days.

The New York Post reported that Rockefeller told investigators he had "zoned out" as the train was headed towards the bend.

He was "jolted back to reality" only after a whistle went off warning him he was going dangerously fast, the newspaper said.

A report on New York media pointed Tuesday toward neighborhood news website DNAinfo.com said investigators believe the driver "dozed off" for a few moments and woke up too late to stop the train hurtling off the tracks.

The train, carrying between 100 and 150 people, had been headed south to Grand Central Station in Manhattan

Investigators found that shortly before the crash at 7:20 am (1220 GMT) the throttle of the Metro-North train went into idle and there had been a sudden loss in brake pressure.

The train's seven cars derailed just before Spuyten Duyvil station and flew across a grassy bank separating the railroad from the Hudson and Harlem rivers, which meet at that point.

The front car came to rest only a few feet from the water and two cars toppled on their side.

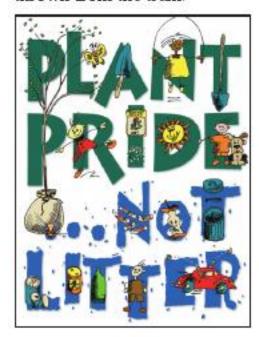
New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said Monday the cause of the crash was most likely "speed-related" and described the horror passengers experienced as the train skidded at high speed.

"The windows broke out, the doors opened and they were picking up stones, rock, dirt, tree limbs were flying through the cars," he said.

Some passengers were "impaled" by debris as train cars flew into the air, officials have said, while others had to be cut free from tangled metal.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority identified the four dead as two men and two women aged from 35 to All were New York-area residents.

Three of the dead had been thrown from the train.



UK authorities defend forced caesarean for Italian woman

LONDON (AFP) - British authorities have defended the decision to force a mentally-ill Italian woman to give birth by caesarean section, saying they acted in the interests of the mother and child.

Claims that British social services "forcibly removed" the baby girl from the woman's womb while she was on a work trip sparked a furore at the weekend.

But officials in Essex, east of London, said that health authorities had obtained a court order in August 2012 forcing the Csection "because of concerns about risks to mother and child"

A court judgment authorising the adoption of the little girl, named only as "P", revealed that the mother had bipolar disorder and suffered from "very intrusive paranoid delusions" when she failed to take her medication. She had spent several spells in psychiatric wards in Italy.

The mother, who came to Britain in 2012, was "profoundly unwell" and had been forcibly taken into psychiatric care a month before the birth, judge Roderick Newton said in his ruling in February.

He said the mother, who has two other daughters being cared for by their grandmother in Italy, was now in much better health and had sought to take the newborn home with her

But he gave the go-ahead for the baby to be adopted in Britain, saying this was the best way to guarantee her a "permanent, predictable and stable home".

"If in later life P reads this judgment, as she may well do, I hope that she will appreciate that her mother in particular loved her and wished for her to return to live with her and to bring her up," Newton said.

The Sunday Telegraph newspaper reported that the mother, who cannot be named for legal reasons, is continuing to fight through the courts for custody of the child.

The Italian had come to Britain in 2012 for a two-week Ryanair training course when she was taken ill, the newspaper



Hong Kong to quarantine 17 people over bird flu case

HONG KONG (AFP) - Hong Kong will quarantine 17 people after the city confirmed its first human case of the deadly H7N9 bird flu, officials said Tuesday.

The 17 are mostly relatives of the employer of a 36-yearold Indonesian domestic helper, who is in critical condition in a Hong Kong hospital after a visit to mainland China

They were all taken to hospital for observation.

A government statement later said all 17 people had tested negative for the virus, but would be sent to a holiday village in the seaside town of Sai Kung "for medical surveillance".

The Indonesian domestic helper had a history of travelling to the mainland city of

der with Hong Kong, and coming into contact with live poultry, Ko said Monday.

"She has a history of travelling to Shenzhen, buying a chicken, slaughtering and eating the chicken," Ko said.

She was admitted to hospital on November 27 after developing a cough and shortness of breath.

The city has suspended imports of live poultry from Shenzhen and escalated its flu contingency plan to "serious".

In all, 137 human cases of H7N9 have been reported in mainland China since February with 45 deaths, according to the World Health Organisa-

In April Taiwan reported its first case, a 53-year-old man who had been working in eastern China.

The man was eventually dis-

charged but the case prompted the island's authorities to begin research into a vaccine which they hope to roll out by late

In August Chinese scientists reported the first likely case of direct person-to-person transmission of H7N9. But they stressed that it was still difficult for the virus, believed to jump from birds to people, to spread between humans.

Avian flu viruses have been around for a very long time in wild birds. They do not generally cause disease in humans, though in rare cases they mutate and jump species.

Hong Kong is especially alert to the spread of viruses after an outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) swept through the city in 2003, killing 299 people and infecting around 1,800.

over teenage gang rapes



STOCKHOLM - (AFP) -Swedish police have warned of a growing trend of teenage gang rapes, often filmed or photographed on smartphones, as a high-profile case under a new rape law opened in the capital Tuesday.

In the case before the Stockholm court, three young men are accused of raping a girl, whose age has not been made public, in a forested area south of the capital.

The girl was under the influence of drugs, court documents show, and a judge said she was in a "particularly vulnerable situation" due to the number of men involved, who were not known to her.

The trial is the latest in a senes of cases of group sex acts involving young Swedes which has prompted police to raise the alarm about a new trend in gang rapes.

Video footage from smartphones is later used to shame and silence victims, or blackmail them into participating in more group sex acts.

"It can be five guys and one girl, and she is forced to give them oral sex in public... the girl doesn't dare to say no,"

This year there have been almost 1,600 cases of sexual assault involving under 18s in Stockholm alone, up from 1301 the previous year, according to official figures.

The number of cases that made it to court in the country as a whole where the victims

were 15 to 17-years-old almost doubled to 466 from 2011 to

Sweden has one of the highest rates of reported rape in Europe but police say that can be attributed to a greater willingness to report attacks in recent years.

They say the attackers often manipulate and threaten younger girls into participating in sex acts and once they are filmed they have control over

Per Ullholm, a sex educator at the sexual health association RFSU, said he had not seen "any dramatic change in attitudes towards sexual violence among teenagers," but added that it was important to discuss limits and seek consent before sex.

Sweden toughened its rape legislation in July to include victims in a "particularly vulnerable situation" which includes young girls who feel intimidated among a group of boys.

Women's right groups were keeping a close eye on the trial which opened Tuesday, the most high-profile since the new law came into force, hoping that it would set a precedent and send a clear message to young men.

They called for Sweden to strengthen rape laws further and join other countries such as the UK, Ireland, Norway and Belgium which require explicit consent before a sexual





CHICAGO (AFP) - A woman twice sent home from a Catholic hospital during a painful miscarriage has sued the church's hierarchy for imposing standards of care which bar termination of any pregnancy, her lawyers said. The lawsuit argues that those rules -- based on the belief that abortion is murder -- stopped her doctors from providing medically appropriate care: terminating the failed pregnancy before it threatened the mother's health. The US Conference of Catholic Bishops -- which authored the ethical and religious directives and is the party being sued -- declined to comment on the case. The lawsuit alleges that the hospital administration reviewed the case this year and determined that the decision not to induce labor to terminate the pregnancy was "proper" because the religious and ethical directives prohibit inducing labor prior to fetal viability.



Mandela movie smashes S.Africa box office record



JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - A film based on the life of Nelson Mandela, "Long Walk to Freedom", has became South Africa's all-time highest grossing picture after its opening last week, production company Videovision Entertainment said Tuesday.

The British-South African co-production, starring British actor Idris Elba as Mandela, has earned 4.4 million rand (\$427,000, 315,000 euros) -- shattering records previously held by blockbusters like "The Wolvenne", "Hangover 3" and some locally produced films.

South African producer
Anant Singh said he was "extremely pleased with the audience reaction" and the
emotional response to the twoand-a half-hour movie.

Largely based on Mandela's

autobiography of the same title, "Long Walk to Freedom" traces the life of the revered leader from his childhood in the rural Eastern Cape, through his anti-apartheid activism and decades of incarceration, to his election as the country's first black president in 1994.

The film opened in the United States on November 29, earning an average of \$25,076 per screen, according to producers. It is seen as an Oscar contender, with Elba's performance in particular worthy of a best acting nomination.

Mandela, 95, is currently under medical care at his Johannesburg home after spending nearly three months in hospital with a lung infection earlier this year.



Paul Walker death investigation: Police rule out second vehicle, focus on speed

CALIFORNIA -- Investigators have been unable to find evidence of a second car in the ac-

TAJ MAHAL; Taste of INDIA - If you like your Indian food authentic, or are looking for a new and unique dining experience, an evening at Taj Mahal will deliver a memorable meal. A seemingly endless menu offers scores of choices for fish, chicken, lamb and vegetarian dishes that are "the real deal;" discover that Indian food goes way beyond curry!

Taj Mahal's Tai Choice is a great way to start the meal and be initiated into the joys of Indian cuisine, offering a diverse selection of traditional favorites. It contains hearty portions of Pakoras, crispy vegetarian fritters, Aloo Tikki, potato cutlets, Chicken Tikka, tender chicken breast pieces seasoned just right, and shaped and seasoned ground lamb, charmingly dubbed "Sheik Kebabs." All is served on a bed of sliced onions and brought to your table on a sizzling platter, and you will want to dish those sautéed onions on to one of their tasty Indian breads called Naan, leaving behind not a single crumb.

Main dishes are accompanied by a choice of nice, mixed vegetables rich with garlic, or Naan, plain, buttered, onion or garlic, and you will want to order an extra basket or two of this tasty delight, on which you can spoon your main course, as

TALL TABLE OF INDIA TASTE OF INDIA

meal. Located behind the Royal Plaza
Mall, Taj Mahal offers a dining experience that is truly out of the ordinary,
they feature an excellent and tasty selection for vegetarians too. If you are
a fan of Indian food, or have been
toying with trying it, Taj Mahal is the
place for a very affordable dining experience and the real deal!

well. Poon is crispy fried naan, and most definitely

Call 588-4494 for reservations.

& Furious" actor Paul Walker on Saturday, a Los Angeles County Sheriff's spokesman said Monday.

The probe now centers on the speed of the 2005 Porsche Carrera GT, driven by Walker's racing team partner, the spokesman told CNN

Earlier, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Sgt. Richard Cohen told CNN that authorities received a tip Sunday suggesting that another car was at the scene racing the Porsche when it slammed into a light pole and burst into flames.

But investigators have since ruled out the presence of a second vehicle and the theory that the Porsche was drag racing, a spokesman said Monday afternoon. Speed was a factor in the crash, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office said. A 45 mph speed limit sign was attached to the light pole knocked down by the Porsche.

The car, which sold for \$450,000 when new, is a notoriously difficult vehicle to handle, even for professional
drivers, according to Autoweek magazine. A top driver
called it "scary," the magazine
reported Sunday. It is powered
by a V-10, 610-hp engine.

Walker and Roger Rodas, who was believed to be driving, died in the wreck on Hercules Street, a wide business park road, in the community of Valencia inside the city of Santa Clarita, about 30 miles north of Hollywood, according to Walker's publicist.





Apple buys analytics firm for \$200 mn: report

NEW YORK (AFP) - Apple has acquired social media analytics firm Topsy for more than \$200 million, The Wall Street Journal reported.

The newspaper, citing sources familiar with the deal, said it was unclear how Apple planned to use the firm but that it could be related to Apple's new streaming music service.

Apple did not specifically comment on the report, but a spokeswoman said in a statement: "Apple buys smaller technology companies from time to time, and we generally do not discuss our purpose or plans."

Topsy, according to the report, is among a handful of Twitter partners which has access to the full range of data from the fast-growing messaging platform.

Earlier this year, Topsy said it had created a searchable index of all the publicly available tweets ever made, to be available for marketers and others

Topsy did not respond to a request for comment.

Topsy describes itself as a company "with the only fullscale index of the public social web," to help its customers "instantly analyze any topic, term or hashtag across years of conversations on millions of web sites."

The data can be used to analyze the effectiveness of a social media ad campaign, for example.

Danny Sullivan, analyst at Search Engine Land, said Topsy "is about the only decent third-party Twitter search service to have survived, in recent years."

Apple had a music-oriented social network called Ping, but shuttered that last year as it created sharing options through Facebook and Twitter.

Sony says PS4 sales exceed 2.1 million units

TOKYO (AFP) - Sony said Tuesday it has sold more than 2.1 million PlayStation 4 consoles after less than three weeks on the market, as it battles Microsoft and Nintendo for supremacy in the lucrative gaming sector.

The eagerly-awaited PlayStation sold more than one million units in just one day after its November 15 debut in North America and Sony said Tuesday it was on track to hit a worldwide target of 5.0 million units by March.

The latest PlayStation, which will be released in its home market Japan in February, is now being sold in 32 countries.

Sony's latest sales figures come after Microsoft said its new Xbox One console also sold over one million units in 24 hours following its November 22 release.

Sales have lagged the company's expectations, but Nintendo said in October it was keeping its forecast for the new Wii console at 9.0 million units for the year to March 2014.

China space launch debris wrecks villagers' homes

BEIJING (AFP) - Debris from the rocket carrying China's first moon rover plummeted to earth in a village more than a thousand kilometres from the launch site, crashing into two homes, a report said Tuesday.

The incident about nine minutes after the launch of the Chang'e-3 mission early Monday happened in Suining county in the central province of Hunan, which has been hit by space wreckage nearly 20 times, the Xiaoxiang Morning Post said.

A picture showed a somewhat baffled-looking villager peering at the curved shape of what appeared to be a rocket nose-cone, below a gaping hole in his roof.

Authorities gave the residents 10,800 yuan (\$1,800) and 5,200 yuan in compensation, the paper said. No one was injured.

A Long March-3B carrier rocket, China's most powerful such vehicle, blasted off at around 1:30 am Monday from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwestern China.

The lunar rover mission is part of China's ambitious space programme, which has the goal of establishing a permanent space station by 2020 and eventually sending a human to the moon.

But debris from China's numerous space launches has frequently found its way to Suining county, which has been hit by rocket parts nearly 20 times since the early 1990s, the Xiaoxiang Morning Post reported.

Last May wreckage from a rocket sent up by the Xichang Launch Centre crashed into homes and hit a high-voltage wire in the area, according to the Shanghai Daily News.

In October 2011 a steel frame weighing more than 250 kilograms (550 pounds) landed in a field after another satellite launch, and other wreckage pierced a house roof.

Scientists discover wonder rice gene: IRRI



MANILA (AFP) - Scientists have discovered a wonder rice gene that could dramatically increase yields of one of the world's most important food crops, the International Rice Research Institute said Tuesday.

Preliminary tests show that yields of modern long-grain "indica" rice varieties, the world's most widely grown types of rice, can rise by 13-36 percent when infused with the so-called SPIKE gene, the

Philippines-based institute said.

"Our work showed that SPIKE is indeed one of the major genes responsible for the yield increase that breeders have spent so many years searching for," IRRI genetic transformation laboratory chief Inez Slamet-Loedin said in a statement.

Testing of new rice varieties infused with the gene is under way across several developing countries in Asia, said rice breeder Tsutomu Ishimaru, head of the IRRI-led SPIKE breeding programme

Increasing the yield means growing more rice on the same amount of land, using the same resources.

The SPIKE gene was first discovered by Japanese breeder, Nobuya Kobayashi, following long-running research starting in 1989 on a tropical "japonica" rice variety that is grown in Indonesia, Ebron told AFP. The findings of the study were published Monday.

Tropical japonica rice is mainly grown in East Asia and accounts for just 10 percent of global rice production.

Rice is the developing world's most important food crop, consumed by more than half of humanity, including 640 million Asians who live in poverty, according to IRRI.





US stocks fall again on Fed tapering worries

NEW YORK (AFP) - US stocks Tuesday fell for a second day in a row as speculation increased that the US Federal Reserve will soon scale back its bond-buying program.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 94.15 points (0.59 percent) to 15,914.62.

The broad-based S&P 500 dipped 5.75 (0.32 percent) to 1,795.15, while the tech-rich Nasdaq Composite Index declined 8.06 (0.20 percent) to 4,037.20.

The sell-off came as investors focused on prospects that the Fed may trim its \$85 billion per month bond-buying program earlier than previously believed, perhaps at its monetary policy meeting in two weeks.

That speculation picked up

on Monday, a dearth of major economic news on Tuesday and ahead of a big US labor report Friday that many feel could hasten Fed action if jobs growth

The markets are falling because of "more taper fears" as economic data improves, said Brent Schutte of BMO Private

Dow component Pfizer fell 1.9 percent after Goldman Sachs removed it from its "conviction buy" list. Goldman said it sees less upside for Pfizer in light of its rise in value, Barrons.com reported.

Bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year US Treasury dipped to 2.78 percent from 2.80 percent Monday, while the 30-year declined to 3.84 percent from 3.86 percent. Bond following strong economic data prices and yields move in-

1.2 million Dutch households below poverty line, 11% of children are poor

THE HAGUE - At least 1.2 million people were living in poverty in the Netherlands last year, a rise of over 150,000 people on 2011, according to a new report.

YESTERDAY'S

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Research by the national statistics office CBS and the government's socio-cultural think-tank SCP, shows 7.6% of the population is now living below the poverty line. Last year's rise is the sharpest since the economic crisis began in

The SCP puts the poverty line at €1,040 a month for single people and €1,430 for a couple. A couple with two children is classed as poor if their gross income is less than €1,960 - or €24,000 per year.

The SCP definition, which is different to that used by the CBS, is based on having an income which is 'not much but sufficient' and includes what is considered necessary to eat, live, buy clothes and take part in social activities.

Detroit bankruptcy case can go forward: US judge

What Can Be Done About DETROIT'S ABANDONED By David Weise and Derek VanPelt large apartment structures owned by the ed corners of old sewspapers, crumbling Saster, and easle like wases dangling from the ording. Boards are stalled the silence of abandomenon is become and by the marking panic of a fregitiened att. This dread and bursen landscape may conjuse visions of war-toen Paris or firetombed Decades. Unfortunately, to the affinite determined of Detrooters, scenes the thin are all ton comment on the ike this are all too common on the areets of the Motor City. They are the to back their operations. The result was egotten legacy of suburban prosperity. For example, the building at the right, Hendrie (at British), is one of several

CHICAGO (AFP) - The city of Detroit won judicial approval to move forward with the largest municipal bankruptcy in US history Tuesday despite objections from city workers fearful of losing their pensions.

Saddled with more than \$18 billion in debt and a tax base depleted by decades of population loss and urban blight, the birthplace of the US auto industry has been so strapped for cash it can't even keep the street lights on.

It filed for bankruptcy protection in July, the largest US city ever to do so.

After lengthy initial hearings and weeks of deliberation, Judge Steven Rhodes ruled Detroit is eligible to restructure its debt and liabilities under Chapter 9 of the US bankruptcy code.

The decision was immediately appealed by the city's largest public sector union.

It was hailed by Michigan Governor Rick Snyder as the only "viable" way for Detroit to "stay on the path toward a brighter future."

"There will be other difficult decisions as we work through this process," Snyder said in a

"But Michigan and Detroit are resilient and are the comeback stories in the country. Working together we can and will make sure that reinvention happens."

In an unusual move, Rhodes explained his decision in a court hearing prior to releasing his complex 140-page opinion.

Bankruptcy was a "foregone conclusion" and should have happened years ago, Rhodes told the packed courtroom.

"The city no longer has the resources to ... provide its citizens basic services," the Detroit News quoted Rhodes as

"To reverse this decline and attract new residents and revitalize and reinvigorate, Detroit needs help."

Thousands of retired city workers are fearful they will be pushed into poverty if Detroit is able to slash their pension benefits, which are supposed to be protected by the Michigan state constitu-

Rhodes warned that federal bankruptcy law allows for the pensions to be cut, adding "the court emphasizes that it will not lightly or causally exercise federal bankruptcy law to impair pensions."

The city-owned Detroit Institute of Arts is also at risk of closing its doors if Rhodes allows even part of its worldclass collection to be sold to pay off Detroit's debts.

Rhodes indicated that may not happen, arguing that selling assets would be a one-time fix that wouldn't address Detroit's deeper problems.

The bankruptcy is expected to make it harder for municipalities in Michigan and other US states to borrow money by undermining confidence in what used to be among the most trusted bonds available.

The situation in Detroit is being closely monitored by government workers across the country who are fearful that they too may see their retirement benefits slashed by cashstrapped states and cities.

Emergency manager Kevyn Orr said he hopes unions, pension funds and other creditors will work with him on a "consensual" plan to slash Detroit's debts "so it can growth and thrive."

"We're trying to be very thoughtful, measured and humane about what we have to do," Orr told reporters. "The reality is there's not enough money to address the (pension) situation no matter what we do."

He vowed to continue to pay the city's bills -- including paychecks for city workers -- and hopes to publish a restructuring plan in early January.

Outgoing Mayor Dave Bing urged residents to "pull together" and get behind the restructuring efforts.

"There's going to be alot of pain for a lot of different people," Bing told reporters. "But in the long run, the future will be bright."

Once a bustling beacon of industrial might, the Motor City is now a poster child for urban decay, its landscape littered with abandoned skyscrapers, factories and

homes.

Detroit has seen its population shrink by more than half, from 1.8 million people in 1950 to 700,000 today.

Racial tensions sparked by the civil rights movement and devastating 1967 riots exacerbated white and middle-class flight to the suburbs. Businesses followed suit, further shrinking the tax base.

With less revenue, Detroit had to cut back on services, prompting even more people to leave and eventually sending the city into an economic tailspin

A whopping 40 percent of street lights don't work and the average police response time is 58 minutes.

Home to the "Big Three" US carmakers -- Ford, Chrysler and General Motors -- the Motor City also saw its main employers go through rounds of mass layoffs as auto factories were automated and jobs outsourced.





Buckle

PICKLES





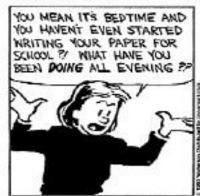




MOMMA



CALVIN and HOBBES



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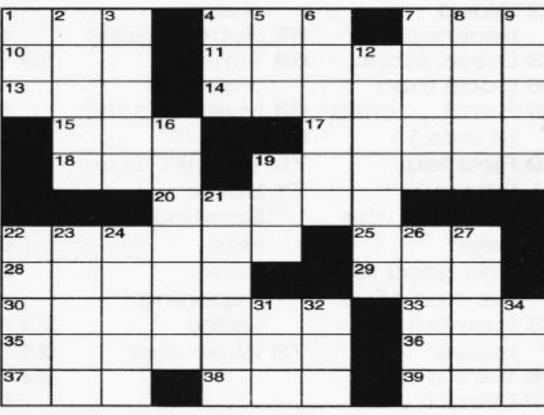
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O'stad : ' Botica Sta. Cruz ' - S.N: '4 Centro Medico'

Center for Hemodialysis

Posada Clinic Aruba Tel.580-2840/Pager 127-2446

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Fellowship Clinic S.N. Free treatment of

Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Anonymity guaranteed Tel. 584-5440

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Telephone Helpline 583-1190 Mon.-Thu. 9 p.m.-12 midn. Fri.-Sun. 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

CAS MARIE

Alzheimer's Day Care Center Tel: 5696910



HOSPITAL

Horacio Oduber Hospital Tel.5274000

EMERGENCY

Telephone 911 POLICE HDQS

Telephone 100 TAXI

C.V. TAS 587-1998, 587-5900 In Oranjestad: Tel. 582-2116, 582-1604 582-5447

In San Nicolas Tel. 584-5160, 584-6602 professional taxi services Tel. 588-0035

Al Anon Meetings Mondays 6-7pm

Sabana Liber 8 in Noord Tel: 5673356 / 5838989

Sudoku

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Gold Coast Aruba: This is the time to invest

-- Management of Gold Coast Aruba, the island's newest and most innovative gated community, reports that sales have been very good and encouraging as the global economy recovers and people looking to purchase vacation homes have found that Gold Coast is an outstanding investment value. Director of Sales, Fito Croes has noticed a surprising percentage of owners in reality do not spend a great amount of time personally to use the villas or town homes they purchase, but are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," he remarked, "but I am gratified by how many are buying because they felt secure with real estate investment on Aruba They really study the history and economy of the island and are impressed with the political stability and continually increasing value of prime locations. Gold Coast is in the heart Malmok. considered Aruba's most exclusive community where the value of properties has only increased over time. It is only minutes to the best beaches and all the ac-



tion, and yet offers a quiet and secluded getaway, we are very pleased by the response to our concept."

Fito, with his sister Mayrin and brother Rudy operate Cas Bon, which has been constructing homes and building developments for all budgets for nearly twenty years. "Gold Coast Aruba is the jewel in our crown," observes Fito. "We were very excited about this project and the scope of actual and planned facilities and amenities. We have spoken to countless island visitors to find out what they would really want in a permanent residence on Aruba, and took from there"

Input from frequent vacationers who have dreamed of their own home in Aruba contributed to the realization of

Gold Coast Aruba which when complete will be a community of 260 town homes, villas and condominiums with a stunning clubhouse complemented by two additional community pool areas, The Clubhouse is about to start construction and will offer to the community homeowners and visitors 2 tennis courts, full service spa and fitness center as well as a stunning pool area and is expected to be complete by early 2013. It will also house a restaurant and mini-market.

Owners who purchased upon the groundbreaking only a few short years ago, are already enjoying a nearly 50% appreciation on their investment, particularly those taking advantage of the on site management's rental services program. There is always a great

demand for Aruba and facilities such as those at Gold Coast, make it easy for some owners to see a valuable return on their investment.

The design of the residences and public areas is open, airy and spacious, taking full advantage of the island environment, with quality construction and finishing available. Partnering with two of Aruba's top providers of kitchens and bathrooms enables developers to offer custom options allowing buyers to individualize their homes. An elegant and chic furniture package is available or island designers will assist owners in finishing the decor to their specific tastes.

There are many aspects to purchasing property; not the least is the future value of the

investment. To further enhance this, Gold Coast management have inaugurated a number of in-house services and have recently become affiliated Interval International, the world's largest network of vacation ownership properties which provides an unlimited international pool of investors to tap for ownership and rental prospects. Property exchange for a vacation in another destination is also available through the Interval International affiliation. Gold Coast's own rental services have also proven highly successful in assisting owners in renting their villas; 24-hour security and maintenance services also tip the scales when it is time to make a decision. Aside from all this, housekeeping, child care, catering services, car rental through its partnership with AVIS car rental are also available as well as pre-shopping services so cupboards and refrigerators are stocked upon arrival, which can also be arranged through their property management department. Personnel are also available to assist in arranging restaurant reservations and island activi-

Visit their website: www. goldcoastaruba.com for more details and availability or call 586-2200 to arrange a personal tour.

Discover authentic Aruban cuisine at The Queen's





Enjoy a true taste of Aruba without having to travel in the charming surroundings of The Queen's Restaurant in the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. Your host, Varella Innocencia has brought her very popular Oranjestad eatery to Palm Beach, showcasing authentic local cuisine only a short walk away from the major resorts.

The "hipper" and elegant new digs offer beautiful views, but Mama Lusia's magical touch in the kitchen is what first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. She can be counted on to be conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generation. As Varella says, "My mom loves and lives to cook. Even when she is not at work in the restaurant, she is experimenting with new dishes all day at home.

She is the Queen of the Kitchen."

Be sure to try Luisa's acclaimed "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"-"Grandma's Beef Stew," or their fresh, whole snapper, with Mama Luisa's delectable salsa criollo. Don't miss the specialty of the house, a favorite local delicacy, Keshi Yena -"Filled Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda It is satisfying and particularly memorable. Regional side dishes and some of Mama's secret recipe prepara-



Mama Luisa hard at work in the kitchen

tion of banana hasa and creamy potatoes provide a deliciously picturesque meal.

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to go, reasonably priced and easily accessible. A full menu can be seen on their website, http://www.the queensaruba.com/.

Aside from an extensive regular menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season, and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't be shy about asking for something that may no be on the menu, as they are always eager to please.

The Queen's is open daily from 3:00 pm - 11:00 pm, offering both indoor and outdoor dining.

Suspense mounts as FIFA prepares World Cup draw



COSTA DO SAUIPE (AFP) FIFA on Tuesday began the
countdown to Friday's World
Cup draw but football's world
governing body kept everyone
in suspense by saying it will
only reveal the composition of
the draw pots on the day itself.

The World Cup circus has descended on the northeastern resort of Costa do Sauipe, some 70 km north of the city of Salvador, one of the 12 venues for next year's finals.

Salvador was one of the host cities for last June's Confederations Cup, the World Cup dress rehearsal, and was one of several to see outbreaks of sometimes violent protest against government corruption but also the estimated \$11bn bill of staging the event

FIFA is keeping the exact draw mechanism under wraps for now but the 32 participating nations will be drawn in eight groups of four, each containing one seeded nation.

The seeds are hosts Brazil, defending champions Spain, Argentina, Colombia, Uruguay, Germany, Belgium and Switzerland

Pot two has seven teams for the time being, including the five-strong African contingent, with pot three containing, among others, the United States, Australia and Japan.

Pot four consists of the nine non-seeded European teams, one of which will have to be assigned to pot two.

FIFA based its seeding according to its rankings as of last October 17, prior to the playoffs.

Pot 1 (seeds): Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Uruguay, Spain, Germany, Belgium, Switzerland.

Pot 2: Chile, Ecuador, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Algeria, Nigeria, Cameroon.

Pot 3: USA, Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras, Japan, Iran, South Korea, Australia.

Pot 4: Holland, Italy, England, Portugal, Greece, Bosnia, Croatia, Russia, France



Taj Mahal

Taste of India

Authentic Indian Restaurant on the Island

Open Mon - Sat Lunch : 12:00 - 3:00pm Dinner : 6:00 - 10:00 pm

Havenstraat 36, Behind Royal Plaza Mall, Oranjestad, Tel: 5884494

BRIEFS:



LONDON (AFP) - West Ham United's Senegalese midfielder Mohamed Diame (2nd R) vies for the ball against Crystal Palace's French-born Moroccan striker Marouane Chamakh (L) during the English Premier League football match between Crystal Palace and West Ham United at the Selhurst Park in south London Tueday. Crystal Palace won the match 1-0.



NANTES (AFP) - Valenciennes' Senegalese defender Saliou Ciss (L) vies with Nantes' Togolese forward Serge Gakpe during the French L1 football match Nantes vs Valenciennes yesterday at the Beaujoire stadium in Nantes, western France, Nantes won 2 to 1.



OSAKA (AFP)-IBF champion Daiki Kameda (L) fights with WBA champion Liborio Solis (R) of Venezuela during the super flyweight title match in Osaka, western Japan onTuesday. Solis defeated Kameda by split decision 2-1 but lost his belt since overweight.

NFL: Seahawks rout Saints for league-best 11th victory

SEATTLE (AFP) - Seattle's Russell Wilson threw three touchdown passes and the Seahawks routed the New Orleans Saints 34-7 Monday, improving the hosts to an NFL-best 11-1 and clinching a playoff berth.

Seattle led 27-7 at half-time in the showdown of teams with the best records in the National Conference and kept Saints star quarterback Drew Brees contained most of the night.

The victory gave the Seahawks a two-game edge in the fight for the best record in the conference and a home-field playoff advantage with New Orleans and Carolina now both 9-3 with four games to play.

"If we can get the chance to do that, that would be something special," Seahawks coach Pete Carroll said.

Wilson completed 22 of 30 passes for 310 yards and ran for 48 more yards as the Seahawks stretched their home win streak to 14 games.

"He did a great job," Carroll said of Wilson. "We just played our ball. We came out raring to go."

Brees connected on 23 of 38 passes for only 147 yards, snapping his streak of games with 200 or more passing yards at 43, two shy of Dan Fouts' NFL record.

Seattle opened the scoring on Steven Hauschka's 26-yard field goal and Michael Bennett



returned a Brees fumble 22 yards for a touchdown to give the Seahawks a 10-0 lead.

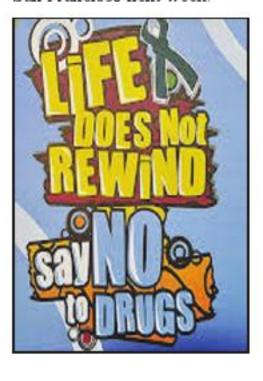
Wilson found Zach Miller on a 2-yard touchdown pass but Brees matched him with a 2-yard touchdown toss to Jimmy Graham to pull New Orleans within 17-7.

Hauschka added a 20-yard field goal and Wilson found Doug Baldwin on a 4-yard touchdown pass with 13 seconds remaining in the second quarter to give Seattle a 27-7 half-time edge, the biggest half-time deficit for the Saints since 2007.

Wilson added an 8-yard touchdown pass to Derrick Coleman in the third quarter to complete the scoring.

The Saints fell into a tie with Carolina for the NFC South division lead and the two teams will meet twice in the next three weeks. Whichever of them emerges as the division champion will likely earn a first-round bye and a home-field edge in the second round.

The Seahawks lead San Francisco (8-4) by three games atop the NFC West and can clinch the division by beating San Francisco next week.





Football: MLS wants Beckham-led Miami team but stadium blocks deal

NEW YORK (AFP) - Major League Soccer wants a new team in Miami backed by England icon David Beckham, but MLS commissioner Don Garber said Tuesday that the deal still lacks a downtown stadium deal.

"We can't go into Miami without the right stadium solution," Garber said in his annual state of the league comments, which came four days before Sporting Kansas City hosts Real Salt Lake in the MLS Cup championship playoff final.

Garber refused to put a timetable on the project or address the notion that Beckham faces time pressures under terms of his former MLS playing contract that gave him rights to an expansion club at a discounted rate.

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Tel: 588-9517 / Fax: 588-9518 E-mail: themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com Website: www.themorningnewsaruba.com Garber said that there will be an MLS board meeting on Friday and Beckham's Miami bid "will be a key subject at that board meeting but they are not coming with a proposal for us."

Bolivian-born billionaire Marcelo Claure and British entrepeneur Simon Fuller are said to be two of the projects backers with even NBA Miami Heat star LeBron James having spoken about it with Beckham.

Newspaper and television reports in Miami say Beckham is interested in a downtown port site for a stadium of about 25,000 seats. But no deal is done and Garber made it clear no team will come without it.

Garber's goal is to have 24

MLS teams by 2020. The league has awarded teams to New York and Orlando that will launch in 2015, giving the league 21 clubs.

MLS is not considering shifting its match calendar from March-December to align with the rest of the world in the near future, Garber said.

Garber's goal is to have 24 MLS teams by 2020. The league has awarded teams to New York and Orlando that will launch in 2015, giving the league 21 clubs.

New National Football League television deals will bring \$4.4 billion a year to the NFL.

Racing: Dancing Rain sold for £4.2 million



LONDON (AFP) - Champion mare Dancing Rain, who is carrying a foal by star racehorse Frankel, sold at auction on Tuesday for four million guineas (£4.2 million, \$6.8 million).

The retired 2011 Oaks winner was sold in Newmarket, eastern England to John Ferguson, bloodstock advisor for Dubai ruler Sheikh Mohammed who owns the town's Godolphin stables.

Frankel rated the world's alltime top racehorse has been at stud since retiring last year following 14 straight wins.

Sheikh Mohammed's latest purchase will come as a blow to the emerging Al Shaqab racing operation overseen by Qatari Sheikh Joaan al Thani, who said Dancing Rain was "in our sights".

The Sheikh Joaan-owened Treve won France's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Europe's premier all-aged flat race in October and last week one of his spokesmen, unveiling the UK arm of Al Shaqab, made clear their determination to challenge such established global racing operations as Godolphin and the Irelandbased Coolmore.

Dancing Rain, a daughter of Danehill Dancer and formerly owned by brothers Martin and Lee Taylor, won the British Champions Fillies' And Mares' Stakes at Ascot in 2011.

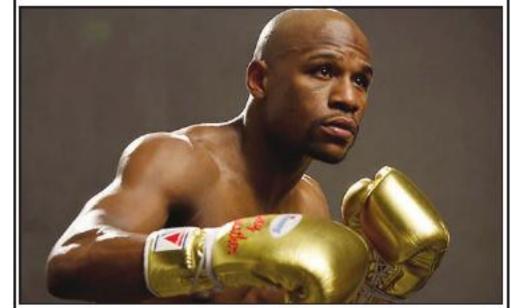
Auctioneers Tattersalls said Dancing Rain was the only Oaks winner carrying her first foal to be offered at public auction in the past 50 years and she achieved the second highest ever auction price for a broodmare in Europe.

Frankel, owned by Saudi prince Khaled Abdullah, was retired following a 14th win in 14 races in the prestigious Champion Stakes at Ascot last year.

He now commands a stud fee of £125,000 (\$205,000) a time to sire possible future champions, the BBC reported.

Frankel was formerly trained by Henry Cecil, who died earlier this year. Dancing Rain's foal is due on February 2.

Mayweather hints name of next foe could come this week



GRAND RAPIDS (AFP) - Unbeaten US fighter Floyd Mayweather hinted that the identity of his next foe, speculated to be Britain's Amir Khan, could be revealed this week. In a report Tuesday on the MLive Media Group website from Mayweather's home state of Michigan, Mayweather was quoted as saying last week that this week could be a big one. Mayweather, 45-0 with 26 knockouts, is expected to fight on May 3 of next year in his first bout since taking the World Boxing Council and World Boxing Association light middleweight titles in a 12-round majority decision over Saul "Canelo" Alvarez on September 14. Asked about facing Filipino icon Manny Pacquiao, the fighter that boxing fans have wanted Mayweather to fight for several years, the 36-year-old champion only replied: "Who?"



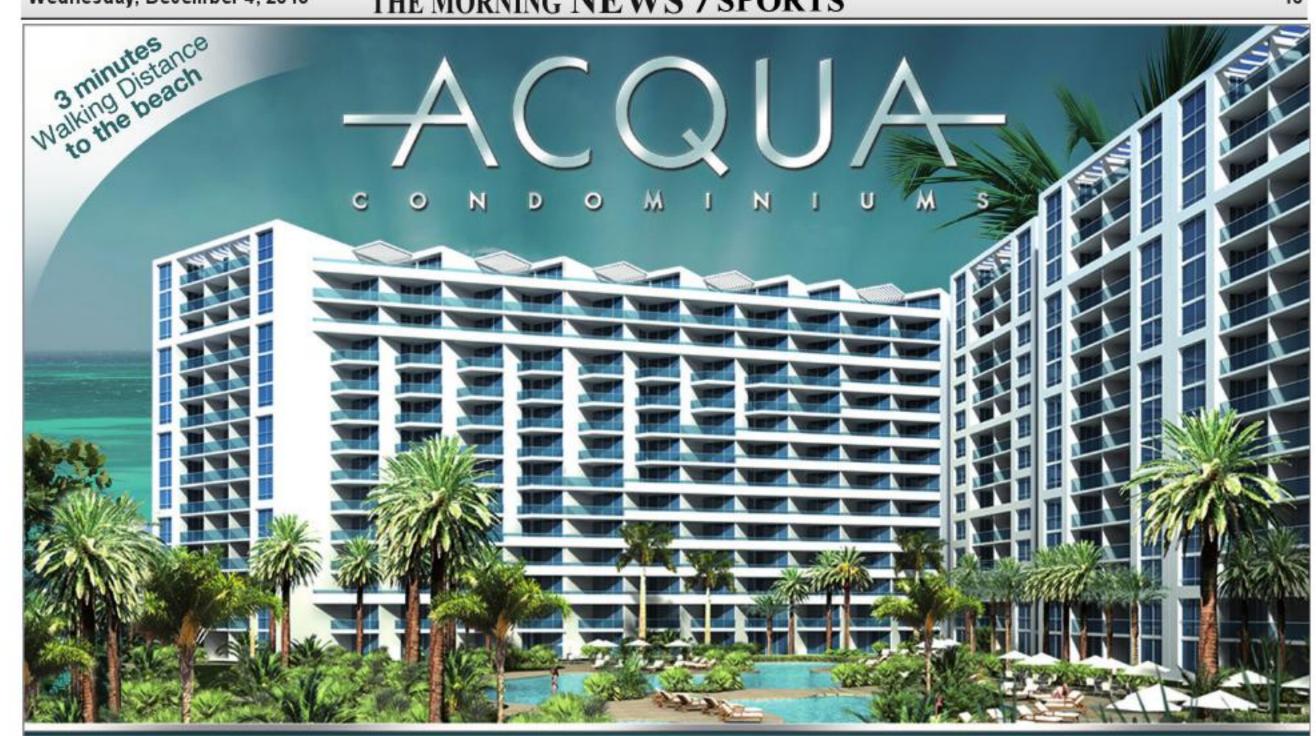




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Renald Thiel is very grateful to all FIFA extends deadline

ORANJESTAD - Championship Bowler, Renald Thiel is extremely grateful for all who contributed to his recent bowling success.

He is grateful to all who in one way or other helped him achieve his goal. He thanks his father who is always supporting him.

His coach, Aldrick Maduro, for his patience and professional assistance. He is also grateful to all the other coaches, especially coach James Porter who accompanied him on the two international occasions this year.

We look back on a successful year of bowling this year. Next year, reportedly, will bring many challenges for his sport. They had words of praise for their main sponsor, Taco Bell. Certainly, without Taco Bells' help Renald could not have achieved his goal.

Their final commitment this year is the 25th of December, Christmas day. On this day they will represent Aruba in the 19th tournament in the Jose Luis "Chegui" Carde in San Juan, Puerto Rico, organized by Paradise Kids.

Renald wishes everyone a blessed Christmas ad joyful



2014 full of sports prosperity. Renald's achievements this past year:

March: 1e place Qualification Arbas selection

March: le place Torneo Himno y bandera

April: Participation at Kegeltraining Orlando Florida.

June: 3rd place Torneo Paul

July: Torneo International Pabcon Ponce Puerto Rico 10th place "Single" 6th place "doubles" 5th place "Team" 10th place "Mixed Doubles"

August: Torneo International St Croix

3rd place "Team" 6th place "Doubles" 5th place "Single" August: Torneo "Back to school"

3rd place single. August: Qualification Selection ARBAS Team Aruba 2013-2015

1th place youth October: Torneo Trik or Treat 2nd place youth November: CONCECABOL

San Jose Costa Rica 1e place Sub 16 Doubles

7th place "Master" Sub 16 November: ARBAS 4th National Tournament 2013 2nd place Youth

for three World Cup venues



COSTA DO SAUIPE (AFP) -FIFA said on Tuesday that three of 12 World Cup finals venues would be delivered bevond its December 31 dead-

World football's governing body indicated ahead of Friday's draw in the northeastern resort of Costa do Sampe that the stadiums at Sao Paulo, Curitiba and Cuiaba would not meet a deadline it previously insisted was set in stone.

Delivery of the stadiums at Curitiba and Cuiaba is now expected for February, just four months before the World Cup starts.

FIFA does not have a date for when the Sao Paulo arena will be ready following last week's tragic accident when two workers were killed after a crane collapsed and damaged part of the stands.

FIFA said it would not allow the deadline to be extended having tolerated similar delays ahead of last June's Confederations Cup dress rehearsal, when several venues missed the deadline for that tournament.

Blatter said he made his optimistic assessment on a new report.